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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP: 1724**

Patent  
Case No.: 56631US002

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named Inventor: DUFFY, DEAN R.  
Application No.: 09/977057 Group Art Unit: 1724  
Filed: October 12, 2001 Examiner: Jason M. Greene  
Title: INTERCONNECTED FILTER FRAME AND FILTER FRAMING METHOD

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

10/28/03  
Date

Cheryl L. Schmitz  
Signed by: Cheryl L. Schmitz

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the outstanding Office Action, mailed September 5, 2003, in the above-identified application.

This Amendment is believed to be timely submitted. It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.